

Nov. 26, 1947.

Dr. Ward Pigman,
Research Associate,
Institute of Paper Chemistry,
Appleton, Wisconsin.

Dear Dr. Pigman,

Thank you for your offer of the compounds you mentioned. I really appreciate your cooperation, which may save me several months time.

α -methyl glucoside and melibiose are both commercially available, from Eastman-Kodak and Paragon Testing Labs., respectively, and the only use I should have for such samples would be as checks, which are not really called for at present. However, I would be most interested in as large a sample as I could reasonably demand of methyl-b-galactoside, in view of results I am now getting with the analogous phenyl- derivative. I can also use at the present time several grams of raffinose, on which I have not been able to secure delivery on orders which were sent out some time ago.

You may be interested that *E. coli* seems quite unable to utilize α -methyl glucoside although it attacks maltose quite vigorously. This re-evokes the problem, long in contention, as to the possibility of so-called "indirect" utilization of disaccharides by microorganisms, which would be quite a complication. I have had to keep quite an open mind on this question in this instance.

Do not fail to let me know if you intent to go to the AAAS meetings in Chicago, which might provide an opportunity for a personal discussion. Thank you again.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Assistant Professor of Genetics.